



NEWS RELEASE

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State Awards \$670,369 in Training Acceleration Grants

INDIANAPOLIS (Feb. 24, 2006) -- The Indiana Department of Workforce Development and Indiana Economic Development Corporation have awarded \$670,369 in Training Acceleration Grants to ten Indiana companies or consortia.

The Training Acceleration Grant program provides financial assistance to companies and organizations seeking to expand the skills of their existing workforce through training programs that result in industry-recognized credentials. This grant program is one of the state's primary job training programs offered to Indiana businesses.

"The Training Acceleration Grant program is a key tool to ensuring that the Indiana workforce is globally competitive," said Ron Stiver, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "Through these grants, Hoosier workers receive training that better positions them for higher wages and improves the competitiveness of their employers."

"We're especially pleased to see small businesses taking greater advantage of these grant opportunities. Governor Daniels has clearly stated that these programs need to be more accessible and user-friendly to Indiana's small employers, and we have taken several aggressive steps to ensure this is the case," he said

"The Training Acceleration Grant program plays an important role in assisting Hoosier businesses build a more competitive workforce by increasing worker skills and marketability at a time when economic growth and diversification are top priorities," said Michael S. Maurer, Secretary of Commerce and president of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

The program has four core objectives: promoting small businesses; fostering job retention and expansion; increasing personal income for Hoosier workers; and providing training to address skill gaps in the Hoosier workforce.

The names of the firms awarded the grants, location, current employment, number of trainees, and amount awarded:

<u>Employer</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Employment</u>	<u>Trainees</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>	<u>Award</u>
Austin Tri-Hawk Automotive	Austin	Scott	271	5	CTA: Tooling Associate, Coordinator, Manufacturing Engineer, Press Coordinator, IT Associate	\$29,900.00
CS Kern, Inc.	Muncie	Delaware	33	4	Certificate of Applied Learning in Digital Workflow	\$14,000.00

Daviess County Economic Development Corporation (2 employers)*	Washington	Daviess	618	76	CTA in Advanced Manufacturing	\$194,540.00
Indiana Printing** Association (5 employers)	Carmel	Hamilton	231	17	Certificates in Applied Learning & CTA in Digital Workflow for Print	\$52,901.00
Quality Printing	Anderson	Madison	46	2	Certificates in Applied Learning & CTA in Digital Workflow for Print	\$7,000.00
Spencer Printing, Inc	Muncie	Delaware	14	3	Certificates in Applied Learning & CTA in Digital Workflow for Print	\$10,484.00
Warsaw Engineering & Fabricating	Warsaw	Kosciusko	37	25	AWS, Pipe & ASME welding	\$21,150.00
Dubois County Econ Dev (2 employers) ***	Jasper	Dubois	117	14	Applied Learning CTA	\$34,874.98
Methodist Hospital - Merrillville	Merrillville	Lake	3,061	53	EPIC Medical Software, MCSE, Computer Hacker Forensic	\$199,519.95
Pepsi Americas – Austin	Austin	Scott	122	20	CDC/Associate Degree	\$106,000.00

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve worker skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with Indiana's 26 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures and operates a statewide job placement service.

As a result of legislation passed by the Indiana General Assembly in Feb. 2005, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation replaced the Department of Commerce as the premier entity charged with state economic development. The IEDC has a 12-member board chaired by Gov. Mitch Daniels.

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*The grant to the Davies County Economic Development Corporation is on behalf of two companies: Perdue Farms, and Olon Industries, both in Washington.

**The grant to the Indiana Printing Association is on behalf of five printing companies: Cenveo Corporation, Indianapolis; Languell Printing, Indianapolis; Quality Printing, Anderson; Fineline Printing Group, Indianapolis, Jeco Plastic Products, Plainfield.

***The grant to the Dubois County Economic Development Corporation is on behalf of three companies: Jasper Desk, Southern Indiana Resource Solutions, and Jasper Chemical.